

GROMYKO SAYS USSR FAVORS EARLY RESUMPTION OF GENEVA TALKS WITH PLO PARTICIPATION; CRITICIZES ISRAEL

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 27 (JTA)—Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko told the General Assembly today that the Soviet Union favors the early reconvening of the Geneva conference with the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization but charged that Israel's policies are the main obstacle toward that goal. "It appears the Israeli statesmen would not bring themselves to climb a step higher, would not bring themselves closer to common sense and abandon their plans for expansion at the expense of other countries and peoples," Gromyko said.

The Soviet Foreign Minister spoke on the second day of general debate in which the assembled diplomats outline the foreign policies of their respective countries. Yesterday, U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, speaking to reporters after a 90-minute meeting with UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, said that while he was "very pleased" with Israel's acceptance of a pan-Arab delegation at the Geneva conference, the conditions attached by Israel "do not accurately reflect our views."

He said he shared the Israeli view that "there should be bilateral discussions" at Geneva between the Israelis and individual Arab delegations "but as to the other conditions, there are differences between us." He did not specify what the differences were.

Vance noted that "some of the parties" had said that there would be no checking of credentials and there should be no well-known PLO members at Geneva. Israel has categorically ruled out any PLO presence but conceded it could not check the Palestinians for pro-PLO sympathies. Vance said the U.S. position was that if the PLO accepted Resolution 242, the U.S. would talk to the PLO, but whether PLO people were admitted to Geneva depended on agreement by all of the parties to the conference. State Department spokesman Hodding Carter told reporters last night "I think we believe we're going to have a Geneva conference before the end of the year."

Affirms Israel's Right To Exist

Gromyko's address did not contain the usual polemics but was nevertheless severe toward Israel. He said that the USSR, as co-chairman of the Geneva conference, would do "its best to have it convened and work successfully and expects the other co-chairman, the U.S., to follow this line, too."

He declared that the Soviet Union reiterates once again "that Israel has a right to exist as an independent, sovereign state in the Middle East," adding that "On behalf of the Soviet leadership, I will say again, that we have adhered and will continue to adhere to precisely that line." But Gromyko also said: "We have been and remain advocates of the right cause of the Arabs whose lands have been unlawfully taken away and are still retained by the force of arms. Those lands must unconditionally be returned to the Arab peoples."

Gromyko asked, "Why shouldn't Israel take advantage of the opportunity that presents itself and

agree to a genuinely just settlement in the Middle East? This would, after all, be in its own national interests, too." He warned that the Middle East is the most dangerous hot-bed of war in the world and declared that as long as Israel did not withdraw from the Arab lands it seized in 1967 and as long as the rights of the Arab people of Palestine, "including its right to self-determination and the creation of a state of its own" are not fulfilled, there can be no durable peace in the region.

Gromyko said that "serious apprehensions are aroused by the words and deeds of the leadership of Israel. They are well known. A great deal of inflammable material has been accumulated in the Middle East. In the event of another outbreak of hostilities no one would be able to predict its outcome."

PBS SAYS NO DECISION MADE ON WHETHER TO SHOW PROGRAM FEATURING AMERICAN NAZI PARTY, KKK SPOKESMEN

By Ben Gallob

NEW YORK, Sept. 27 (JTA)—A spokesperson for the area's public broadcasting television station, WNET (Channel 13), said today that no decision had yet been made on whether WNET would show a program featuring spokesmen for the American Nazi Party and the Ku Klux Klan. The spokesperson also told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that a meeting might be held next week to make a decision.

The spokesperson said that the American Jewish Congress and the New York Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) had been in error in reporting late last week that they had received assurances that the program, taped by WHY? TV in Philadelphia, would not be shown by WNET.

The disputed program is a Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) show, "Black Perspective on the News," which features David Duke, Imperial Wizard of the KKK, and Frank Collin, head of the American Nazi Party. As a nationally syndicated PBS program, it is offered to public service TV stations around the country. It is usually shown at noon Sundays over WNET.

Jewish Groups Note Promises

Julius Schatz, AJCongress media specialist, had said he had received assurances from WNET officials that the program would not be shown, following protests to the TV station by the AJCongress and other Jewish groups. Malcolm Hoenlein, JCRC executive director, said that the JCRC had been told by an "authorized spokesman" for WNET that the program would not be shown in New York City and that the JCRC had been "assured we will be notified of any change."

Naomi Levine, AJCongress executive director, said she sent a letter to WNET expressing satisfaction on the purported withdrawal of the program and over the fact that WNET would not "disseminate the hateful views of these two bigots."

Disclaiming censorship efforts, Ms. Levine said the issue was the program judgement of the station, adding, "We believe that any decision by Channel 13 to broadcast a program admittedly racist and anti-Semitic in content, a discussion which has been described by station WHY? as containing "contradictory and factually inaccurate" statements, would be "an act of irresponsible and

wretched program judgement."

Hoenlein also said that the Jewish Community Relations Council in Philadelphia had written to the president of WHYY, stating the Council's "deep concern" that the station was "providing a public forum for odious and inhumane views which have led to the genocide of six million Jews in Europe and an equal number of Christians and others, and to the brutalization and murder of Blacks in this country."

According to Hoenlein, the protests led WHYY to postpone telecast of the program until Sept. 30, giving WHYY officials "the opportunity to consider seriously whether the public is effectively served when a public television station provides a special forum, for whatever reason, to those whose platform calls for brutalization, killing and genocide."

Claims Jewish Groups Misunderstood

The WNET spokesperson said today that the two Jewish agencies had misunderstood the nature of the station's responses and that the station had not made a commitment not to telecast the disputed program which is an hour in length, double its usual time. The spokesperson also noted that WHYY-TV was preparing a new 30-minute concluding section for the expanded program, which will extend it to 90 minutes. She said no decision will be made on local showing of the disputed program until the additional 30-minute segment is screened here.

The spokesperson said a major problem was that the expansion of the program from 30 to 90 minutes posed a major programming problem and that this was a prime consideration in whether or not the disputed program would be telecast. She insisted that such decisions were "an internal matter" and not affected by public protests.

She also said that the station had not received the commendatory letter Ms. Levine was quoted as having sent to WNET. She also said that the decision on whether or not to use the disputed program would be a "team" decision of key management personnel.

The spokesperson said the PBS had notified WNET that another 30-minute segment was under preparation by WHYY and that, after receiving notification from PBS to that effect, WNET officials followed routine procedure in withholding scheduling pending a screening of the additional material.

Program Hit As Grossly Offensive

Hoenlein, in announcing WNET's purported assurances, said that reports from JCRCs in other parts of the country, which have previewed the program, indicate that it is "very bad" and that Duke and Collins "make statements that are grossly offensive to Jews and Blacks and the panelists do not effectively respond to the anti-Semitic statements."

The panelists are the moderator, Dr. Charles King, executive director of the Institute for the Study of Racism; Dr. Lawrence Reddick, Black history specialist at Harvard University; and Reginald Bryant, who produces segments of the program for WHYY. The 30-minute additional segment reportedly gives reactions by Jewish leaders to the comments of Duke and Collins.

Officials of the AJCongress and the JCRC could not be reached for their comments on the disclaimers given today by WNET because their offices were closed for Succot.

GUSH TO DECIDE NEXT MOVE

TEL AVIV, Sept. 27 (JTA)--The secretariat of

the Gush Emunim was scheduled to meet tonight and decide whether to defy Premier Menachem Begin and go ahead with plans tomorrow to establish 11 new Jewish settlements on the West Bank. In meetings with Begin Sunday and yesterday, Gush leaders were told by the Premier that he would not approve the new settlements now. Begin said that there can be no new settlements without government approval on both the timing and the site.

The Gush secretariat discussed Begin's decision in an 18-hour session Sunday, breaking up only around midnight Monday. Reportedly, Gush leaders were ready to bow to the government's demands but some of the settlement groups vowed to strike out on their own.

Gush sources have said that 2500 persons, along with the necessary transportation and construction equipment, had been ready to leave tomorrow to establish the settlements. The government apparently does not want any such move now because of the Middle East negotiations going on in the United States although it agrees with Gush that Jews have a right to settle in all of Eretz Yisrael. Should the Gush members try to establish the settlements, the government is expected to take preventive action.

BRITISH LABOR PARTY UNDER ARAB PRESSURE TO RECOGNIZE THE PLO By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Sept. 27 (JTA)--The British Labor Party, traditionally friendly towards Israel, is being pressed by pro-Arab supporters to issue a statement recognizing the Palestine Liberation Organization as the representative of the Palestinian people. The proposals were made recently at a meeting of the special Middle East subcommittee of the Party's International Affairs Committee under the chairmanship of Eric Heffer, a former minister.

The meeting, held on Rosh Hashanah, was not attended by two members who represent the British Poale Zion, an affiliate of the Labor Party. They are expected to oppose the draft statement at the next meeting of the subcommittee in October. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned that the meeting had been asked to press for an early British statement agreeing with the recent American State Department call for Palestinian representation at the Geneva conference.

Heffer, who is prominent in the Labor Friends of Israel, argued that such a statement would further harm the prestige and morale of the Israeli Labor Party in the wake of its electoral defeat. However, he felt that Israel will eventually have to deal with the PLO and he may put this view to Yigal Allon when the former Israeli Foreign Minister visits Britain for the forthcoming Labor Party conference.

The Middle East subcommittee, which comprises MPs, trade unionists, party activists, academicians and journalists, was formed earlier this year to strengthen the work of the Party's International Affairs Committee.

The Committee's secretary is Steve Vines, a former member of Hashomer Hatzair, who was active in student politics in the early 1970s campaigning for Jewish recognition of the Palestinian claim to self-determination. He is now an employee of the Labor Party's International Affairs Department.

CARTER TO MEET WITH ARAB LEADERS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27 (JTA)--President Carter's efforts to engineer a Geneva conference on the Middle East before the year's end will face a formidable test tomorrow when he meets with

leaders of Jordan and Syria at the White House.

Syrian Foreign Minister Abdel Halim Khaddam will see the President in the morning. In the afternoon, Jordan's Foreign Minister, Hassan Ibrahim, and the Chief of the Royal Court, Sharif Sharaf, will be there.

Attitudes on Israel's positions towards the conference are expected to be sounded out by the President and also by Secretary of State Cyrus Vance when he meets with Khaddam for lunch at the State Department afterwards. Vance will also meet with Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy on Thursday in New York.

FULBRIGHT RAPS ZOA HEAD; HITS ISRAEL FOR SUPPORTING LEBANESE CHRISTIANS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27 (JTA)--Former Arkansas Sen. J. William Fulbright assailed Zionist Organization of America president Joseph P. Sternstein and sneered at Israeli support of Christians in the Lebanese strife. In turn he was criticized by Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R,NY).

The clash took place last night during a panel discussion on the Middle East in which former Undersecretary of State George Ball and international lawyer Rita Hauser also participated. Joseph Sisco, also a former Undersecretary of State, chaired the discussion at the Capital Hilton Hotel, which was sponsored by the American Enterprise Institute, a conservative public affairs organization, and attended by 200 invited guests. The discussion was recorded for national electronic and print media.

Fulbright, for 15 years chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee before he was defeated in the Democratic primary in Arkansas in 1974, hit out at Sternstein while declaring that the government of Menachem Begin has "no intention of giving up territory."

Refers To Sternstein's Reaction

The transcript shows Fulbright saying, "The other day, when the President said something regarding the PLO--I forget exactly--when Rabbi Sternstein characterized it--he equated it with an attack similar to the attack of the Arabs at the Yom Kippur War. This is a very provocative statement, it seems to me."

Sternstein had protested in a telegram to Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, with a copy to the White House, over the State Department's announcement on Rosh Hashanah eve that the "Palestinians must" participate in a Geneva conference. Sternstein likened the timing to the Arab surprise attack on Yom Kippur.

Discussing the fighting in Lebanon, Fulbright said "all the blame" cannot be attributed to the PLO. He noted that "the Israelis have been shelling it (Lebanon) and have positions in it." Hauser retorted, "That's not how the war started." Fulbright then said: "They (Israelis) have certainly engaged in a great crusade to save the Christians. I don't know when they became so deeply interested in the Christians but that's what they profess."

Laughter from the audience greeted these remarks. The audience, which included many Arabs, appeared mainly sympathetic to Fulbright's views. Javits responded to Fulbright's remarks by stating: "I don't think that's an argument worthy of you, Senator Fulbright."

These exchanges took place in the first of two 45-minute periods of the discussion. During the intermission Sisco remarked that Fulbright's allusion to the Jews and Christians was "naïve." Hauser said she did not know that Fulbright "had that

streak in him." Ball did not comment when asked about it. None of the participants nor anyone in the audience brought it up again in the succeeding session.

Fulbright, while still in the Senate, charged in another discussion sponsored by the Institute six years ago that Zionists "control" the U.S. Congress. Last night, Fulbright, who volunteered his law firm serves Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, but contended he was speaking as an American, attacked the Israeli view and upheld the PLO.

Ball also supported PLO participation in the negotiations. When he advocated U.S. pressure on both Israel and the Arabs, Fulbright agreed. However, the forms of pressure on the Arabs were not described by them.

DUTCH JEWISH COMMUNITY GETS HELP

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 27 (JTA)--Five Jewish educators from abroad have come to The Netherlands in recent weeks to assist in the educational activities of the Jewish community. They are Amital Bar Kol, from Israel, who is the new director of the cultural department of The Netherlands Zionist Organization (NZO); Rabbi Mordechai Simcha, 55, of New York, who will coordinate Jewish education for the local Ashkenazic community; and three representatives of the World Union of Jewish Students from New York. Two of them, Jack Feldman and Dini Laub, will work in the NZO's education department. Bath Ami Horowitz will work among Jewish students. All are studying the Dutch language. * * *

RIO DE JANEIRO (JTA)--A bust of Chaim Weizmann, Israel's first President, that has stood in the square across from the Governor's Palace here for 15 years, has disappeared. Sources at the City Council said the disappearance was due to subway construction, but no one can say where the bust is now and whether it will be returned to its place once construction ends. * * *

NEW YORK (JTA)--One hundred years ago, Naphtali Herz Imber, a Galician poet, wrote the words of what was to become the national anthem of the Jewish people in exile and, later, of the State of Israel--Hatikvah. To commemorate the anniversary, the Judaic Heritage Society commissioned twin projects, an eight-inch commemorative plate and a 1 1/2-inch commemorative medal, both designed by Oscar Harris and sculpted by Carter Jones. The plate portrays King David's Tower in the Old City of Jerusalem, with the words of Hatikvah in English set against a background of the Jerusalem sky. The reverse of the plate is stamped with a replica of the original poem in Hebrew, written in the poet's own hand. The medal shows a portrait of the poet and a facsimile of his hand-written poem. * * *

LOS ANGELES (JTA)--Two Jewish leaders have praised Timothy Cardinal Manning, Archbishop of Los Angeles, for his call to Greater Los Angeles Catholics asking them to recite prayers on behalf of Jews during their observance of the Jewish Holy Day period. Rabbi Balfour Brickner, director of the department of interfaith activities of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the association of Reform synagogues, and Lee Goldin, president of the UAHC's southwest council, called Cardinal Manning's request "a reverent act" and one "furthering the goal of Catholic-Jewish harmony." * * *

BEHIND THE HEADLINES**DAYAN'S HECTIC EUROPEAN WEEKEND**

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Sept. 27 (JTA)—Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan may have obtained tentative Jordanian agreement over the West Bank, whereby it would remain linked with Jordan but Israel would retain military access and certain rights of settlement and would automatically exclude the Palestine Liberation Organization or the creation of a new state.

Middle East observers believe that this was the objective of a flurry of secret diplomacy culminating in Dayan's switch-back tour of Western Europe on the eve of his trip to the United States a week ago.

Press excitement about Dayan's movements, the observers think, was exaggerated since the Foreign Minister had publicly stated, on joining Premier Menachem Begin's Cabinet, that the Geneva peace conference should be interpreted broadly to include contacts prior to the actual encounter at the negotiating table.

However, before approaching the Jordanians, Dayan first had to gain a firm decision by the Cabinet to support the Hashemite monarchy and rule out categorically any idea of preferring a Palestinian regime in Amman. Both Defense Minister Ezer Weizman and Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon have stated publicly that they would not mind if the PLO took over from Hussein. Weizman even offered jocularly to meet Yasir Arafat if the PLO chief did not try to shoot him.

Under Dayan's influence, however, such remarks have not been repeated even in jest—and the Israeli Cabinet has committed itself to supporting Hussein, on the grounds that he is an ally of Israel in the fight against the PLO, their common deadly foe.

In Keeping With Policy

In backing Hussein, Dayan was acting in keeping with the policy he followed in 1970 during the Palestinian insurrection in Jordan. At that time, some top Israelis, including Yigal Allon, the then Deputy Premier and Education Minister, were not averse to letting the Palestinians drive the Hashemite family from power. But Dayan, together with Premier Golda Meir, insisted on massing troops against Syria which was backing the Palestinians.

Paradoxically, though, Dayan was always deeply skeptical about diplomatic advances to Hussein while he remained the Defense Minister. Well informed sources told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency some time ago that Dayan was virtually the only senior member of the Cabinets of Mrs. Meir and Yitzhak Rabin who had not held a secret meeting with the Jordanian leader. Hussein himself is thought to have first asked to meet Dayan at the time of the Six-Day War.

Even an Economics Minister, like Haim Barlev, met Hussein, the JTA was told. There were, of course, persistent reports of Hussein meeting Abba Eban when he was Foreign Minister and with Allon. Other meetings, it was said, involved the late Dr. Yaakov Herzog, former director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, and on the Jordanian side, Prime Minister Zeid Rifa'i and Shawkat Sati, for many years the royal physician.

Some of the meetings took place in hotels in London, where Hussein has a home. On at least one occasion, Eban's brother, a London radiologist, helped to make the arrangements.

One thing common to all these meetings is that they have been automatically denied by the Israelis

as well as the Jordanians. Sometimes, though, the denials have been rather clumsy, as after Dayan's visit to London last month. An Israeli Embassy official here suggested if such a meeting took place it would "logically" have occurred in the Jordan Valley, ignoring the fact that Hussein had already met Israelis here.

This secrecy, of course, stems from fears that disclosure of the talks might expose Hussein to the fate of his grandfather, King Abdullah, who was assassinated in 1950 after having negotiated a draft peace treaty with, among others, Dayan.

Dayan's preference for Hussein rather than the Palestinians stems back to those early days of Israeli independence. He believes that there should not be any Palestine partition other than that between Israel and Transjordan.

Dayan has admitted that, under the 1947 UN partition plan, there would have been a self-contained Arab state on the West Bank but that, having rejected it at the time, the Palestinians cannot now be given a second chance. Hence his refusal to contemplate a West Bank Palestinian state, which Jordan opposes just as adamantly.

PROBING JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM QUEBEC

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, Sept. 27 (JTA)—The Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) and the Allied Jewish Community Services (AJCS) have set up a Quebec Policy Research Institute to find out how many Jews are leaving the province and the reasons for doing so.

The institute, which has a two-year mandate, will be headed by Irwin Cotler, a law professor at McGill University. There will be five members from the CJC, five from the AJCS and five from academic circles. The institute has a budget of \$250,000 which has been provided by leading Jewish businessmen. All findings will be made public.

"In an increasingly nationalistic Quebec, the Jewish community has to be able to plan for the well-being of the community in terms of Jewish education, health and welfare, the effects on professionals, particularly doctors, lawyers, accountants, nurses and the small businessman," Manny Batshaw, AJCS executive vice-president stressed.

Since the election last year of the Parti Quebecois, which wants to secede from Canada, there have been reports that Jews and other English-speaking residents of Quebec have been moving out of the province.

Among the members of the institute are Charles Bronfman, Jacques Delmar, Joana Goldstein and Harold Cummings. Alan Rose, the CJC's executive vice-president, will be the coordinator and senior professional on the project. Mike Yarowsky will serve as coordinator of activities between the Jewish community and the Quebec government.

FRANCISCO SILBERT DEAD AT 58

RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept. 27 (JTA)—Francisco Silbert, a member of Rio's State Assembly for three terms, has died here at the age of 58. He was born in Rio, the son of Jewish immigrants from Poland. Silbert, who served once as the president of the Assembly, was a strong supporter of Israel and the cause of Soviet Jewry in the legislature.

JULIO HALFIN DEAD AT 49

RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept. 27 (JTA)—Col. Julio Halfin, president of the Hebraica Club, the most important Jewish club in the city, has died here at the age of 49. He was a dentist with the Brazilian army and a native of Rio de Janeiro.